

Facilitator Guide

- The Fall Out Shelter Problem





Facilitator Guide - FALL OUT SHELTER PROBLEM

- Objectives: An activity to encourage group dialogue; using dialogue to experience inter-disagreement and collective agreement.
- Group size: 8-80 participants.
- Time: About 20mins to 2hrs depending on group size.
- Logistic: Larger the group; bigger the room size needed. Flip charts paper and markers. Print out "Fall Out Shelter Problem" on page 2.
- Focus theme: Agreement and disagreement, Values and Conviction, Facts and Sentiments, Reasons and Doubts, Individualism versus Collectivism etc.

Process:

- Arrange the participants into groups of 6-8 people per group.
- Get the group to sit in a circle. Hand out the "Fall Out Shelter Problem" sheet and give instructions as follows:
 - i. Read the situation on the handout and spend 8mins individually to select your individual choice of survivals. Do not discuss amongst your group member.
 - ii. Once everyone completed above, as a small group they will have to decide group choice of survivals in 15mins.
 - iii. Once the group has completed their choice of 6 survivals, they will then sit in a larger circle with other group (not more than 20) to select the final 6 survivals collectively.
 - iv. Debrief
- DO NOT give any suggestion or additional information about the candidates. All information available as in the presented sheet on page 2.
- Observe words and phrases used, method of deliberation and consensus, body language etc during dialogue. Refrain from being involved in the discussion.

Debrief questions:

- What was our focus in decision making when we have to agree to disagree? What change can I make even if I disagree?
- What challenges we faced about honoring the conviction of others?
- What does it takes for me to agree even if I disagree? What has changed?
- Are there behavior/s that was congruent to my present being that I think should change so that I can relate better?



FALL OUT SHELTER PROBLEM

SITUATION

You are a member of a Civil Defense Committee appointed by the Government to make decisions on fall-out shelter occupancy. War has been declared. It appears that only the occupants of a fall-out shelter in a highly confidential location have a good chance for survival. The Civil Defense director has informed the Government that at present 12 people are occupying the shelter. The computers have calculated that the shelter can guarantee survival of only 6 people. Your committee is to decide which 6 are to be excluded from the group: 6 must go and the remaining 6 may live to rebuild a completely new society.

| | Candidates | My Selection | Group Selection | Final Selection |
|----|--|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 36 year old female physician, known to be a racist | | | |
| 2 | Army drill instructor | | | |
| 3 | Black militant, biological researcher | | | |
| 4 | Biochemist | | | |
| 5 | Olympic tri-athlete. | | | |
| 6 | Film starlet | | | |
| 7 | Third year medical student, homosexual | | | |
| 8 | 16 year old girl of questionable IQ, pregnant | | | |
| 9 | 30 year old Catholic priest | | | |
| 10 | 38 year old male carpenter, 'Mr Fix-it' man, served 7 years for drug offences, has been out of jail for 3 months | | | |
| 11 | 22 year old army nurse and mid-wife, homosexual | | | |
| 12 | 15 year old boy, first year apprentice, carpenter | | | |